

### REMARKS

Claims 1-25 are currently pending. Claims 1, 9 and 17 have been amended herein. Claims 3, 11 and 19 have been appropriately amended to maintain proper antecedent basis as a result of the amendments made to Claims 1, 9 and 17, respectively. Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested by Applicant.

### CLAIM REJECTIONS

#### 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claim 1 recites a “said processing” in the third paragraph. The processing as referred to by Applicant lacks antecedent basis. Although the Applicant refers to “a method of processing” in the claim preamble, the preamble is a subject area that merely introduces the context into which the limitations are to be placed. A step of actual processing must be introduced in the recited elements to overcome the antecedent basis issue.

Applicant has amended Claim 1 to correct the improper antecedent basis.

Claims 1-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for omitting essential steps, such omission amounting to a gap between the steps. The omitted steps are: Steps to enable the method of processing encrypted communication such that said processing is shared by the access point and the access point server.

Attention is directed toward independent Claims 1, 9 and 17.

The final sentence in each of the claims refers to subject matter wherein a method processing is shared by said access point and said access point server. However, the steps recited in the limitations to this/these claims does not result in the processing as recited by Applicant.

Claims 1, 9 and 17 comprise receiving a message from a wireless client containing various bits of information, generating a second message containing more identifying information, and sending these values to an access point server, where the access point server generates more information to be used. However, essential matter indicating how the access point is involved such that the processing is shared is omitted.

Applicant respectfully traverses. Applicant respectfully directs Examiner to amended independent Claim 1. Amended independent Claims 9 and 17 comprise similar amendments.

Claim 1 recites:

In a network access point, a method of processing encrypted communication, according to an encryption/decryption process, said method comprising:

receiving a first message from a wireless client, said first message comprising first values for a first random number and information identifying said wireless client and said access point and a first message authentication code of said information in said first message signed using a first signing key;

generating a second message comprising second values for a second random number and information identifying said access point and said wireless client and a second message authentication code of said information in said second message signed using a second signing key; and

sending a combined said first values and said second values to an access point server, wherein said access point server generates a session key using said first values and said second values and also third values provided by said access point server, such that processing is shared by said access point and said access point server.

Thus. Applicant's invention is directed to a method for processing encrypted communication in which the processing is shared between an access point and an access point server. As recited in Claim 1, subsequent to an access point receiving, from a wireless client, a first message containing: a first random number, identification information related to the wireless

client and the access point and a first message authentication code that is contained in a first session key, the access point then generates a second message that includes: a second random number, identifying information related to said access point and said wireless client point and a second message authentication code that is contained within a second session key. Once the access point has generated the second message, both the first values and the second values are combined, by the access point, into the second message and which is then sent to an access point server.

Applicant respectfully asserts that as a result of the access point generating a second message that includes the combined first and second values, partial processing has been performed by the access point.

Subsequent to the access point server receiving the second message that contains combined first and second values, the access point generates a third message that includes the session key, third values generated by the access point server, the first values and the second values.

Thus, Applicant respectfully asserts that as a result of the access point server generating a session key based on the third values and the first and second values, partial processing has been performed by the access point server.

Applicants respectfully and particularly point out that combining of the first values and the second values is performed by the access point. Further, Applicants respectfully and particularly point that generating third values and the session key is performed by the access point server. Thus, partial processing has been performed by the access point server.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully asserts that processing is shared between the access point and the access point server, as recited in amended Claims 1, 9 and 17.

Applicant respectfully submits that amended Claims 1, 9 and 17 overcome the rejection of record and are in condition for allowance. As such, Applicant respectfully requests the rejection of Claims 1-25 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, be withdrawn and Claims 1-25 be allowed.

Conclusion


In light of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejected claims. Based on the amendments and arguments presented above, Applicant respectfully requests that Claims 1-25 overcome the rejections of record and, therefore, Applicants respectfully solicit allowance of these Claims.

The Examiner is urged to contact Applicant's undersigned representative if the Examiner believes such action would expedite resolution of the present Application.

Respectfully submitted,

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